GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5277
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
URN OF LORD BUDDHA
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether following an excavation carried out in 1958 in Vaishali of Bihar the holy urn of Lord Buddha was found which is now placed in the Museum of Patna;

(b) if so, whether a task force was constituted under the Chairmanship of the then Director General, Ministry of Tourism in the year 1984;

(c) if so, whether the said task force has suggested to consecrate the urn of Lord Buddha in the form of a Stupa;

(d) if so, whether the said task force has suggested that the entire expenditure in consecrate of the Holy urn of Lord Buddha should be brone by the Union Government;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to install the urn of Lord Buddha; and

(f) if so, by when?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Tourism Govt .of India constituted a Task Force (TF) of which ADG (Tourism) was the convener.

(c) (d) & (e) The Task Force in its report of 1986 recommend construction of a new stupa at Vaishali to house the urn. The Archaeological Survey of India did not support the proposal for constructing a new stupa for this purpose at the ancient site of Vaishali as this was against established archaeological norms.

(f) Does not arise.